**Staff shortage in Vividh Bharati Jammu Service**

840. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANIAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated May 20, 2000 under the caption Vividh Bharati Jammu Service out of tune due to acute staff shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to increase the staff strength at this station; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have reported that one Announcer has been transferred alongwith post from AIR, Kathua to recently commissioned, Commercial Broadcasting Service, Radio Kashmir Jammu to manage the service. Station Director, AIR, Jammu has also been instructed to to make working arrangement to run CBS, Radio Kashmir Jummu till regular arrangements are made.

**Privatisation of AIR**

†841. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatize All India Radio;

(b) if so, the reasons behind privatizing such a sensitive agency like All India Radio; and

(c) if not, the reaction and decision of Government with regard to the newsitem published in the Hindustan, dated 2nd June, 2000 with regard to radio transmission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(c) The newspaper report refers to issue of FM Radio lincences to private agencies. The Government have decided to allow 100% Indian owned companies to set up 108 FM Radio Stations in 40 cities in the first phase, which will supplement and not replace the services being provided by All India Radio. The basic objective behind licencing the private FM Stations is to give radio listeners more choice by making available more programmes with localized flavour in terms of content and relevance, in addition to generating employment opportunity by bringing the private sector resources to the Radio Broadcasting sector.

**Irregularities and bungling in Patna Doordarshan Kendra**

†842. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale irregularities are being committed in the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna and large scale financial bungling has also taken place there;

(b) whether Government have also conducted any investigation into the present state of affairs and functioning of the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna; if so, the result of the investigation ; and

(c) the names of the persons against whom Government have taken action as per the outcome of the investigation together with the kind of action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

**Comprehensive Review of Prasar Bharati**

843. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the review Committee headed by Mr. N.R. Narayanamurthy had carried out a comprehensive review of Prasar Bharati and made some recommendations to streamline the working and structure of the Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations have been examined;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.